★ ★ ★ T-P 3/24/68

Incensed because he had been instructed by the president of the National District Attorneys' Association to tone down expected remarks critical of the federal government, DA Jim Garrison cancelled both his scheduled address and the banquet to boot. To queries as to whether he intended to refund the $8 per person the members had planked down for the soiree, he said he considered the some $3000 involved "my fee for teaching Mr. (William J.) Raggio (association president) the importance of freedom of speech." Raggio termed Garrison's actions "completely irrational," and said the association had been assured before the mid-winter convention here there would be no attempt to use it as a public forum in the Garrison assassination probe.

★ ★ ★